UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, DALLAS (89-43) DATE: 3/1/67

FROM : DONALD J. HODGENS

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,
DALLAS, TEXAS, 11/22/63
MISCELLANEOUS - INFO CONCERNING

OO-DALLAS

On 2/20/67, DOMINGO BENAVIDES, 910 East Hobson, Dallas, telephone FR 4-4500, telephonically contacted the writer and advised that he had been interviewed by the FBI on a prior occasion, during the assassination investigation because he was a witness to the OSWALD - TIPPIT killing.

BENAVIDES said that on or about 2/10/67, he received a long distance phone call from a man who identified himself as JOHN BERENDT, a reporter, for Esquire Magazine in New York. BERENDT stated that he wanted to speak with BENAVIDES about a man called IGOR VAGANOV. During the conversation BERENDT stated that he wanted to show a photograph of VAGANOV to BENAVIDES in an effort to determine if BENAVIDES had seen VAGANOV in the area of the OSWALD - TIPPIT killing on the date of the assassination.

BENAVIDES stated he agreed to view the photograph if and when it was shown to him. Shortly thereafter, BERENDT visited BENAVIDES atthis place of business and in his compny was VAGANOV. BENAVIDES said that he did not identify VAGANOV as being in the area of the assassination scene, and so stated to BERENDT.

BENAVIDES furnished the above information to the FBI indicating that he had a photograph of VAGANOV which had been left with him by BERENDT. BENAVIDES stated if the FBI desired the photograph they could have it any time they wanted to pick it up. In conclusion, BENAVIDES stated that VAGANOV appeared familiar to him for some reason, but he can not state now where he has seen him in the past. It was BENAVIDES belief that BERENDT was trying to place VAGANOV at the scene possibly as the mand in the "red Ford" which he (BENAVIDES) had eluded to in his statement to the FBI on the date of the assassination.

89-43-5903

SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED ____ FILED ____
MAR 1 1967
FBI—DALLAS

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DL 89-43

ACTION

Route this memorandum to Supervisor ROBERT P. GEMBERLING for action deemed appropriate by him.